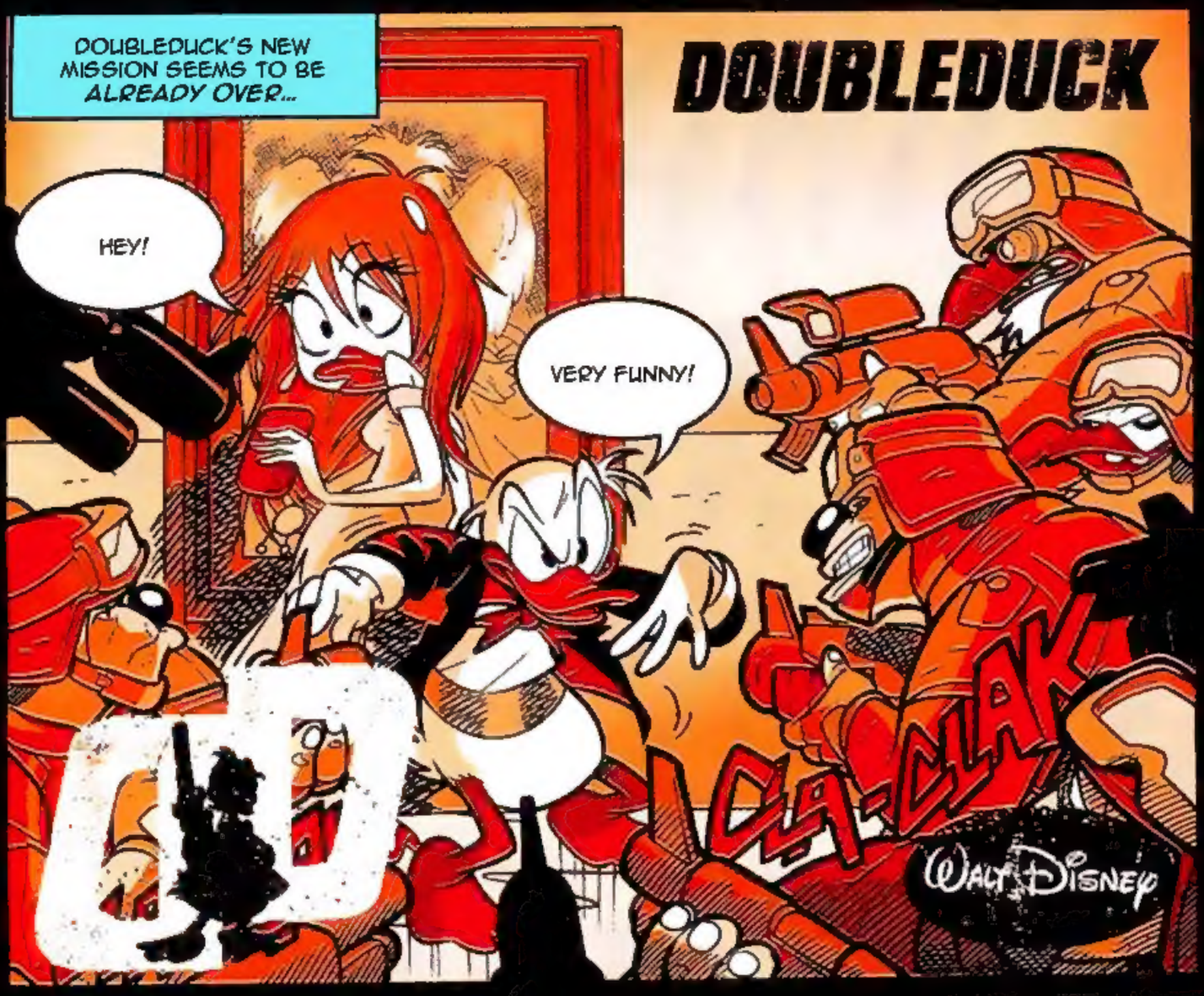
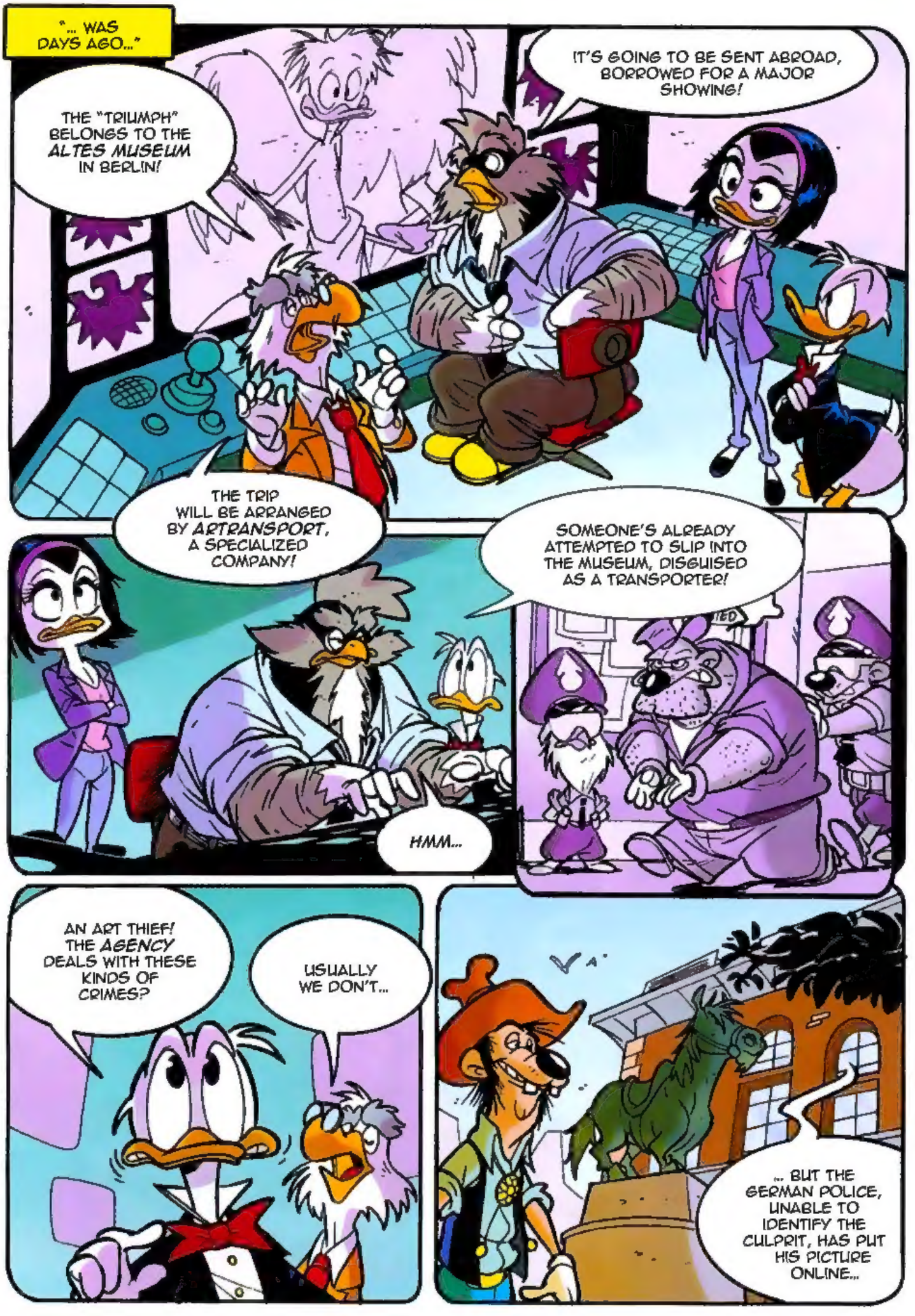
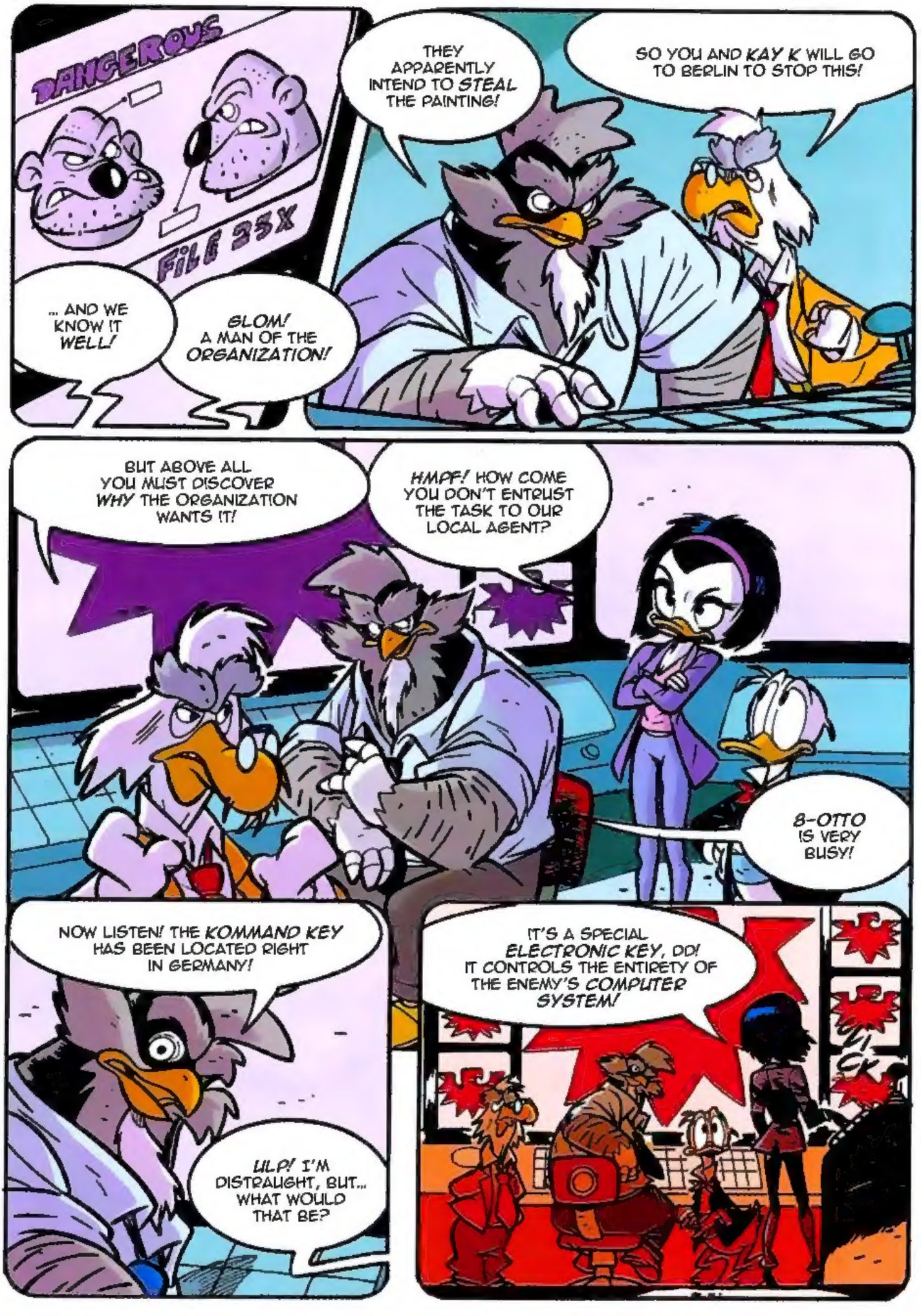


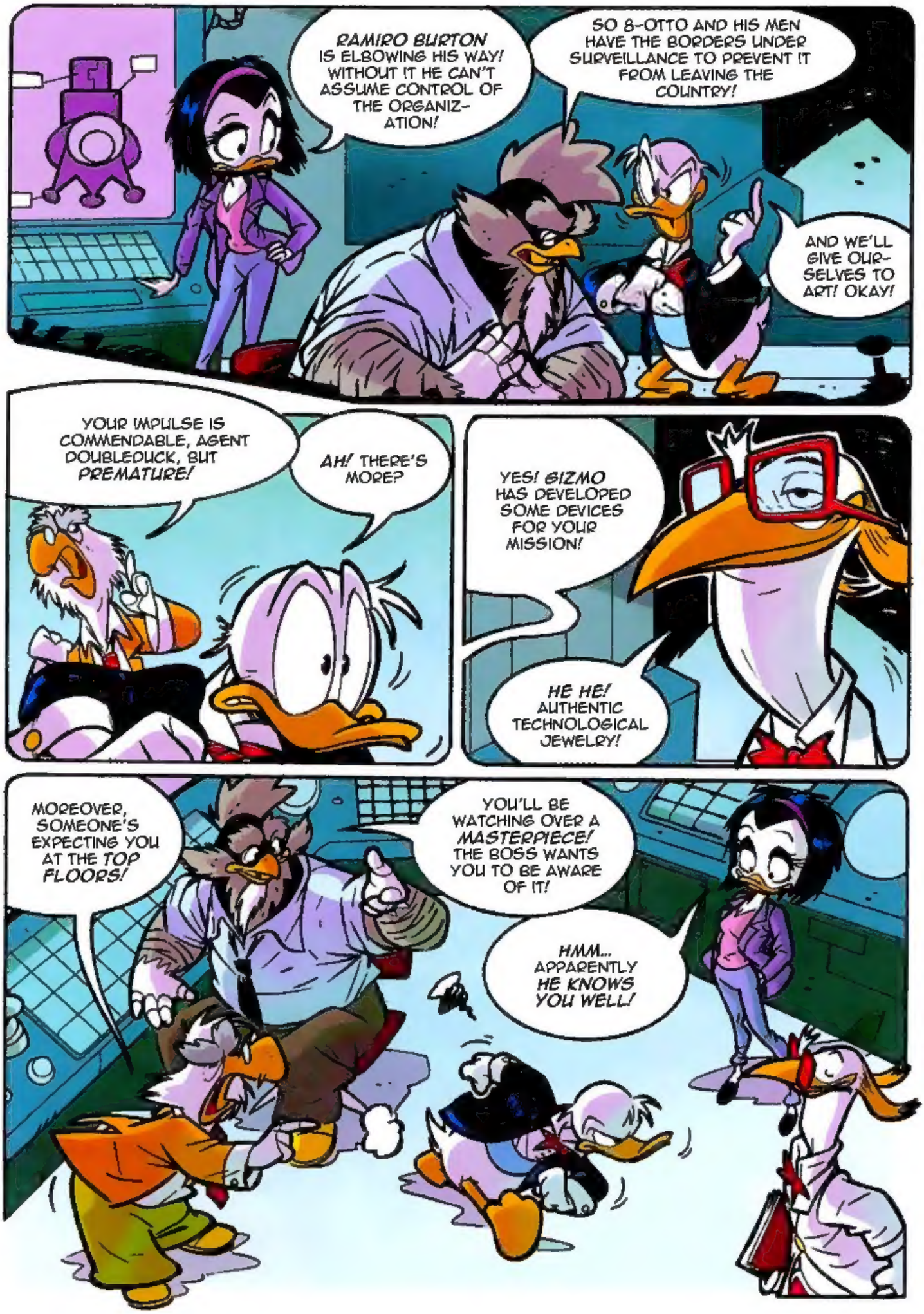
Il TRIONFO dell'AMORE

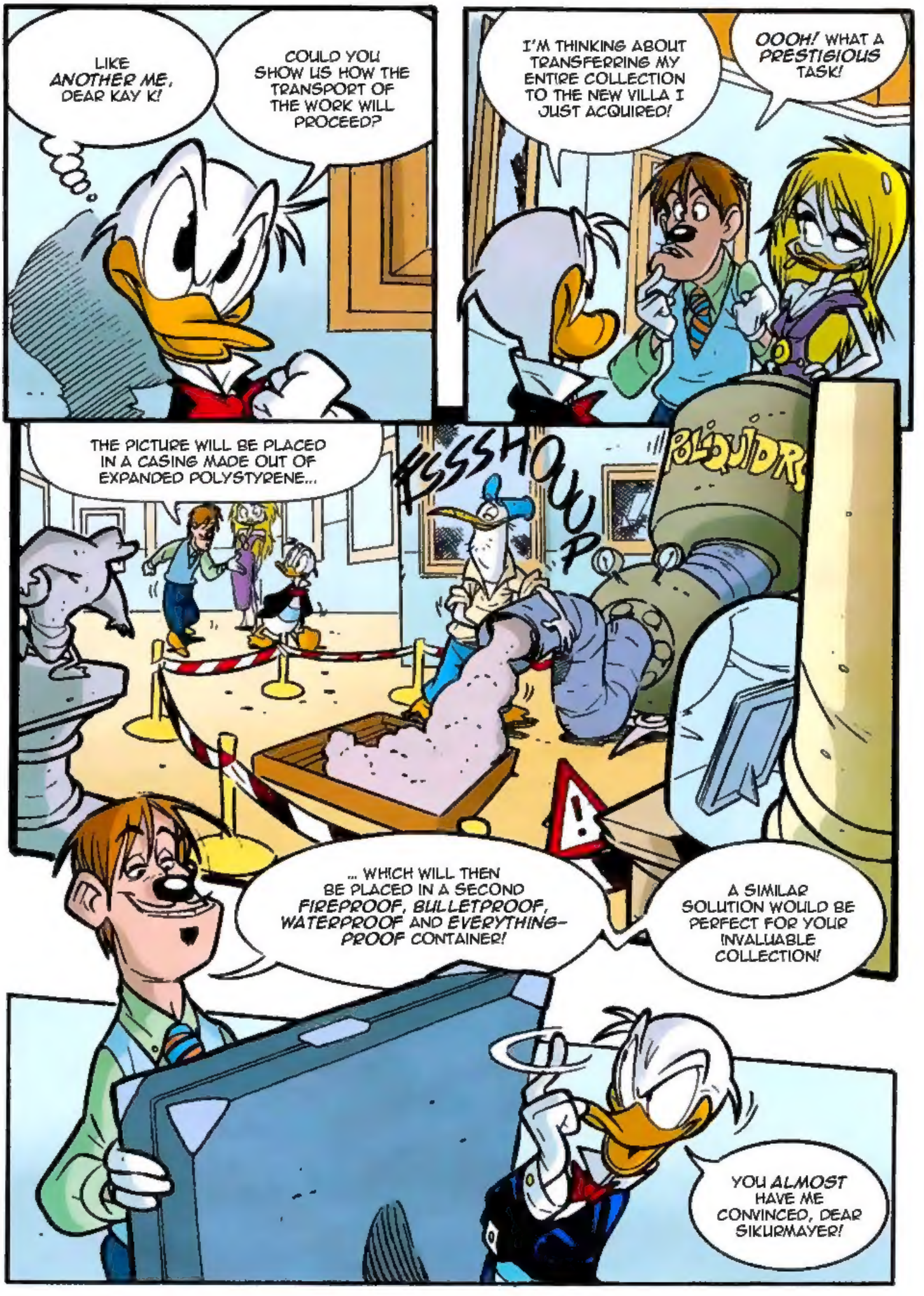
Testo di **Alessandro Sisti** - Disegni di **Francesco D'Ippolito**
Supervisione colore di **Max Monteduro**

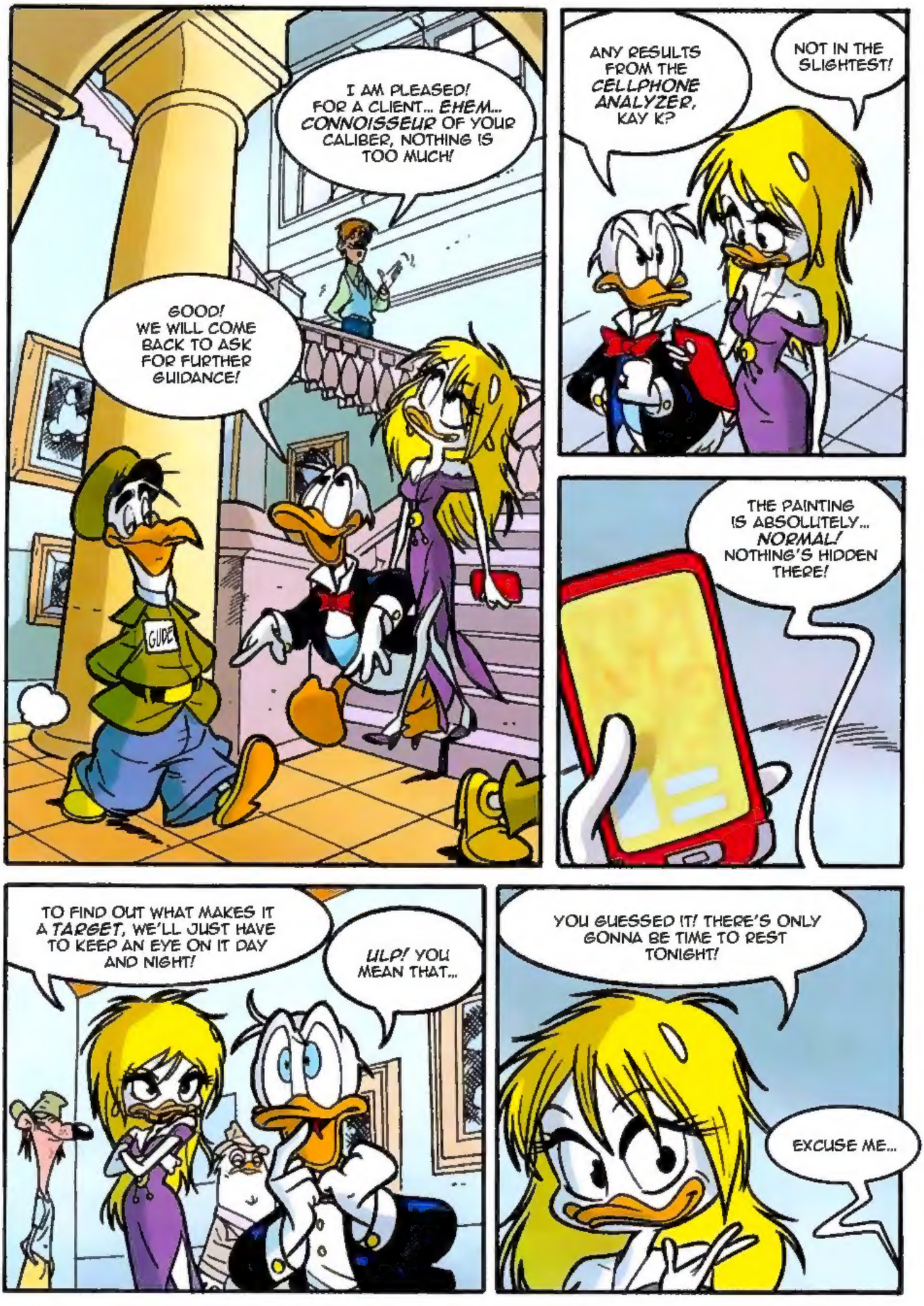
YOU MUST UNDERSTAND! AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, IT'S PROHIBITED FOR ANY-ONE TO PHOTOGRAPH THE PAINTING!
TSK! I'M NOT ANYONE!
NO, OF COURSE! YOU ARE COUNT DONALD GUANCHE OF PLUME!
ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST ART COLLECTORS!
WITH HIS FIANCÉE!
THIS IS THE PICTURE THAT'S BEING PREPARED FOR THE TRAVEL?
YOU ARE CORRECT! "THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE" BY THE GREAT SCARAVAGGIO!
BUT AN EXPERT LIKE YOU KNOWS IT VERY WELL!
YEAH! IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN IT!
THAT'S ACTUALLY TRUE! THE FIRST TIME...

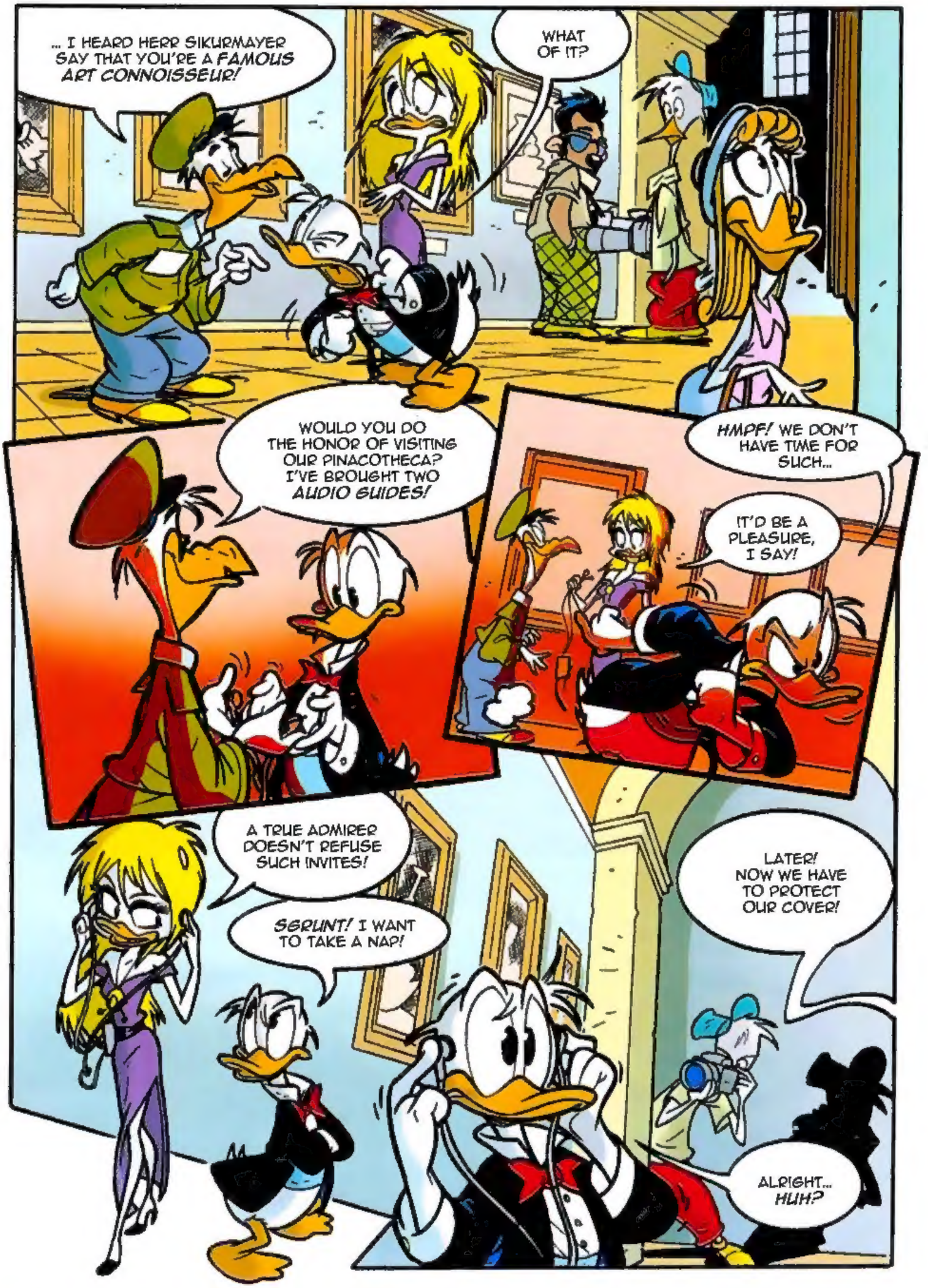

"... WAS DAYS AGO..."
THE "TRIUMPH" BELONGS TO THE ALTES MUSEUM IN BERLIN!
IT'S GOING TO BE SENT ABROAD, BORROWED FOR A MAJOR SHOWING!
THE TRIP WILL BE ARRANGED BY ARTRANSPORT, A SPECIALIZED COMPANY!
SOMEONE'S ALREADY ATTEMPTED TO SLIP INTO THE MUSEUM, DISGUISED AS A TRANSPORTER!
HMM...
AN ART THIEF! THE AGENCY DEALS WITH THESE KINDS OF CRIMES?
USUALLY WE DON'T...
... BUT THE GERMAN POLICE, UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE CULPRIT, HAS PUT HIS PICTURE ONLINE...

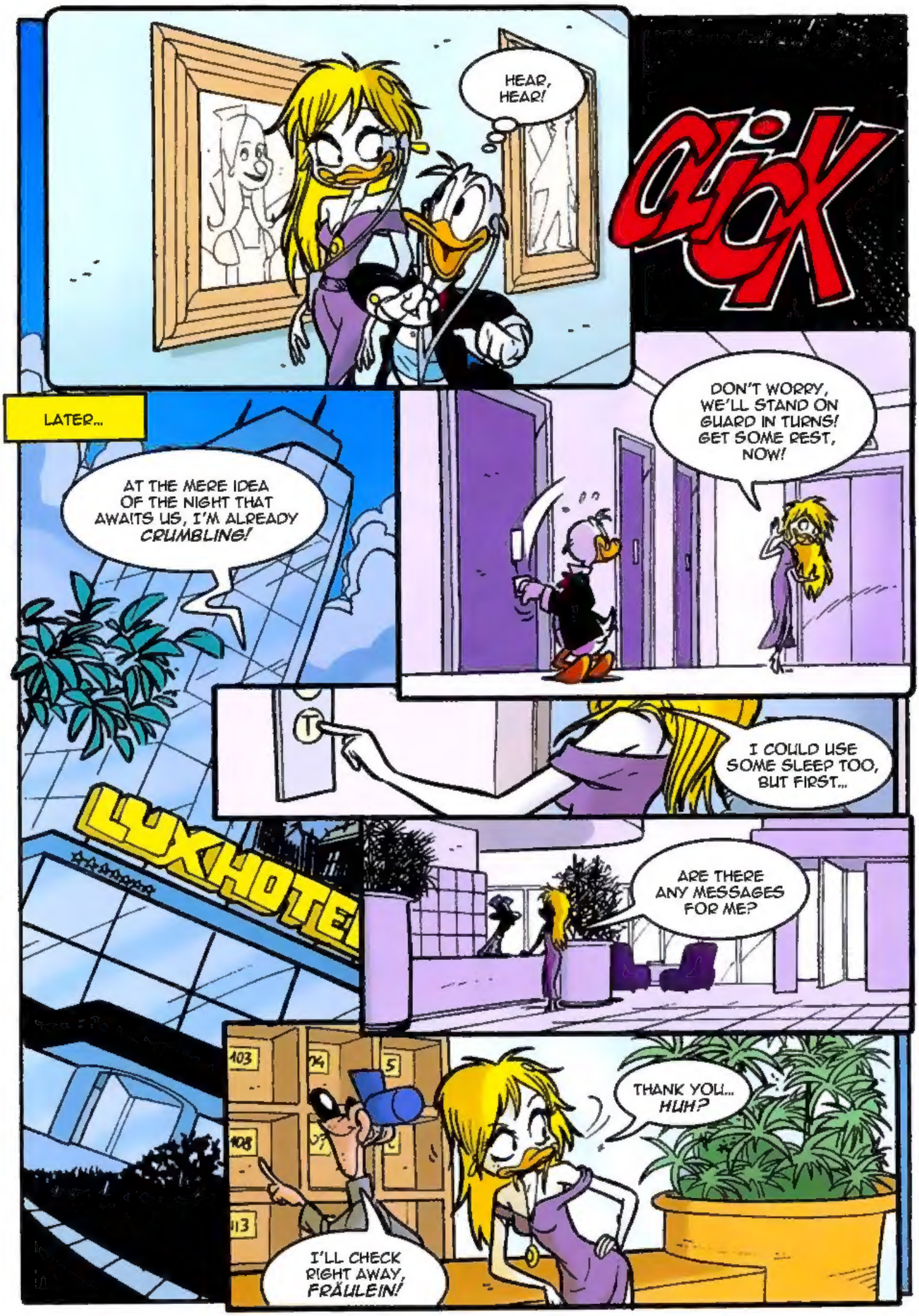

DANGEROUS
FILE 35X
... AND WE KNOW IT WELL!
GLOM! A MAN OF THE ORGANIZATION!
THEY APPARENTLY INTEND TO STEAL THE PAINTING!
SO YOU AND KAY K WILL GO TO BERLIN TO STOP THIS!
BUT ABOVE ALL YOU MUST DISCOVER WHY THE ORGANIZATION WANTS IT!
HMPF! HOW COME YOU DON'T ENTRUST THE TASK TO OUR LOCAL AGENT?
8-OTTO IS VERY BUSY!
NOW LISTEN! THE KOMMAND KEY HAS BEEN LOCATED RIGHT IN GERMANY!
ULP! I'M DISTRAUGHT, BUT... WHAT WOULD THAT BE?
IT'S A SPECIAL ELECTRONIC KEY, DD! IT CONTROLS THE ENTIRETY OF THE ENEMY'S COMPUTER SYSTEM!
CLICK


RAMIRO BURTON IS ELBOWING HIS WAY! WITHOUT IT HE CAN'T ASSUME CONTROL OF THE ORGANIZ-ATION!
SO 8-OTTO AND HIS MEN HAVE THE BORDERS UNDER SURVEILLANCE TO PREVENT IT FROM LEAVING THE COUNTRY!
AND WE'LL GIVE OUR-SELVES TO ART! OKAY!
YOUR IMPULSE IS COMMENDABLE, AGENT DOUBLEDUCK, BUT PREMATURE!
AH! THERE'S MORE?
YES! GIZMO HAS DEVELOPED SOME DEVICES FOR YOUR MISSION!
HE HE! AUTHENTIC TECHNOLOGICAL JEWELRY!
MOREOVER, SOMEONE'S EXPECTING YOU AT THE TOP FLOORS!
YOU'LL BE WATCHING OVER A MASTERPIECE! THE BOSS WANTS YOU TO BE AWARE OF IT!
HMM... APPARENTLY HE KNOWS YOU WELL!


LIKE ANOTHER ME, DEAR KAY K!
COULD YOU SHOW US HOW THE TRANSPORT OF THE WORK WILL PROCEED?
I'M THINKING ABOUT TRANSFERRING MY ENTIRE COLLECTION TO THE NEW VILLA I JUST ACQUIRED!
OOOH! WHAT A PRESTIGIOUS TASK!
THE PICTURE WILL BE PLACED IN A CASING MADE OUT OF EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE...
KSSSHOUUP
... WHICH WILL THEN BE PLACED IN A SECOND FIREPROOF, BULLETPROOF, WATERPROOF AND EVERYTHING-PROOF CONTAINER!
A SIMILAR SOLUTION WOULD BE PERFECT FOR YOUR INVALUABLE COLLECTION!
YOU ALMOST HAVE ME CONVINCED, DEAR SIKURMAYER!


I AM PLEASED! FOR A CLIENT... EHEM... CONNOISSEUR OF YOUR CALIBER, NOTHING IS TOO MUCH!
GOOD! WE WILL COME BACK TO ASK FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE!
GUIDE
ANY RESULTS FROM THE CELLPHONE ANALYZER, KAY K?
NOT IN THE SLIGHTEST!
THE PAINTING IS ABSOLUTELY... NORMAL! NOTHING'S HIDDEN THERE!
TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES IT A TARGET, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON IT DAY AND NIGHT!
ULP! YOU MEAN THAT...
YOU GUESSED IT! THERE'S ONLY GONNA BE TIME TO REST TONIGHT!
EXCUSE ME...


... I HEARD HERR SIKURMAYER SAY THAT YOU'RE A FAMOUS ART CONNOISSEUR!
WHAT OF IT?
WOULD YOU DO THE HONOR OF VISITING OUR PINACOTHECA? I'VE BROUGHT TWO AUDIO GUIDES!
HMPF! WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR SUCH...
IT'D BE A PLEASURE, I SAY!
A TRUE ADMIRER DOESN'T REFUSE SUCH INVITES!
SGRUNT! I WANT TO TAKE A NAP!
LATER! NOW WE HAVE TO PROTECT OUR COVER!
ALRIGHT... HUH?

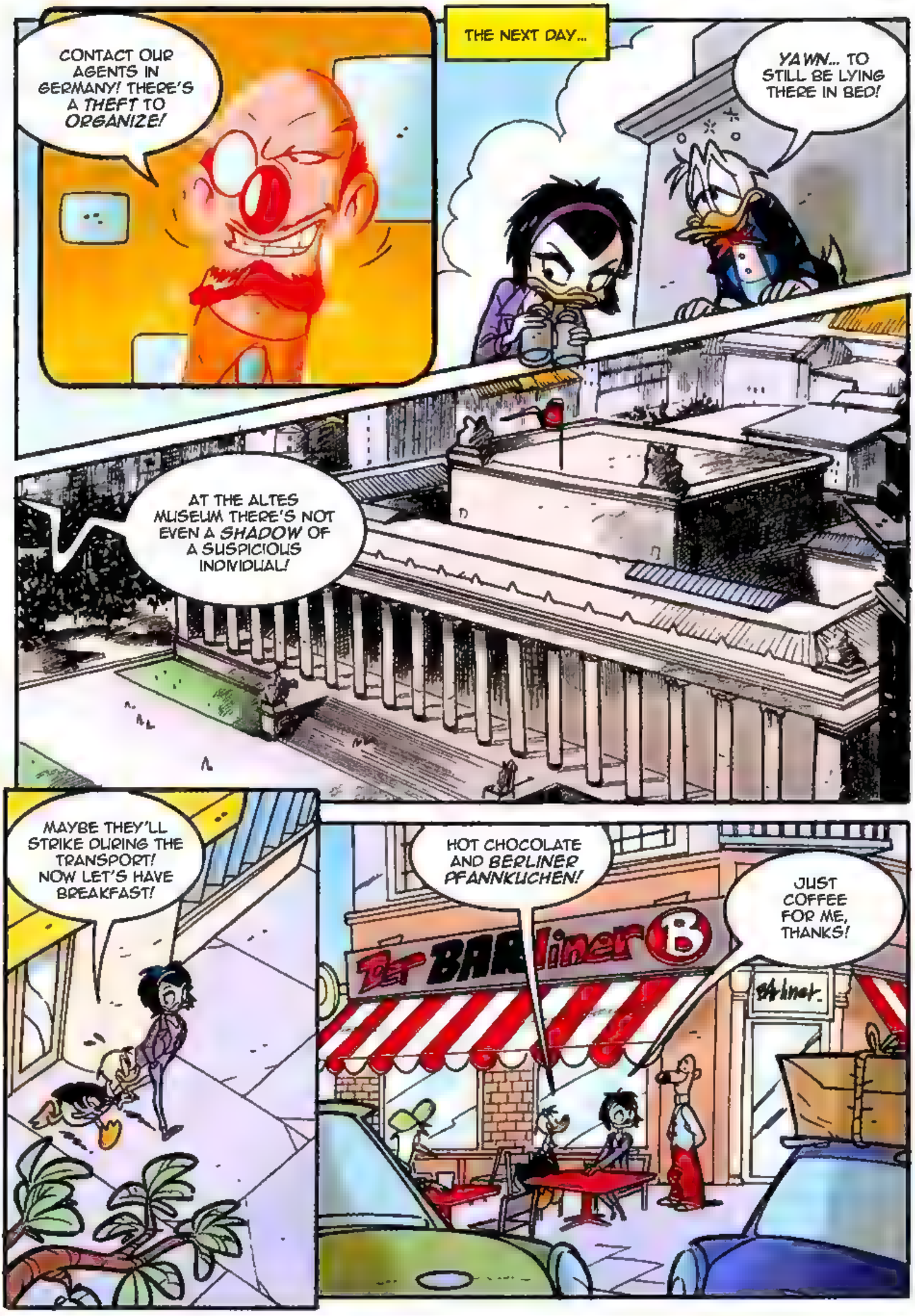

HEAR, HEAR!
AIOK
LATER...
AT THE MERE IDEA OF THE NIGHT THAT AWAITS US, I'M ALREADY CRUMBLING!
DON'T WORRY, WE'LL STAND ON GUARD IN TURNS! GET SOME REST, NOW!
I COULD USE SOME SLEEP TOO, BUT FIRST...
LUXHOTEL
ARE THERE ANY MESSAGES FOR ME?
THANK YOU... HUH?
I'LL CHECK RIGHT AWAY, FRÄULEIN!

THAT SLEEP WENT BY QUICKLY! WHERE'S HE GOING?
GIZMO'S CHAMELEON WIG WILL HELP ME FOLLOW HIM WITHOUT BEING NOTICED!
ULP! JUST WHAT I NEEDED! HE TOOK THAT OVERCROWDED BUS!
M.B.5

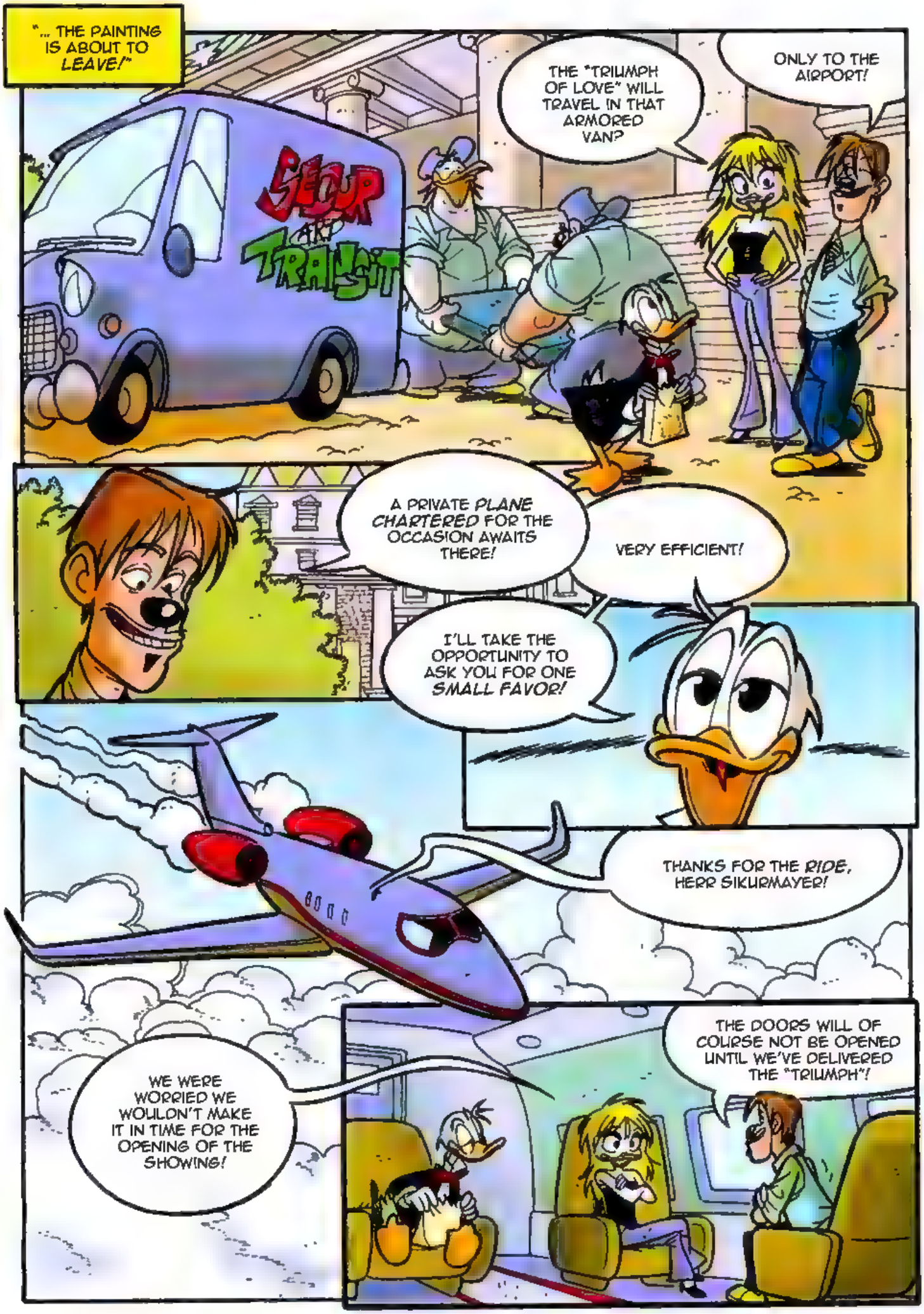
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO WAIT FOR THE NEXT ONE!
WELCOME, DEAR ENEMY! I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU!
HEY! WHERE'D EVERYBODY GO?
THERE NEVER WERE ANY! IT WAS A SIMPLE HOLOGRAPHIC CROWD, PERFECT FOR DISCOURAGING UNDESIRED PASSENGERS!
RAMIRO BURTON IN PERSON! WHAT AN HONOR!
DON'T GET COCKY! I'M HERE IN AN ENCRYPTED TELECONFERENCE, IN CASE YOU FOOLISHLY PLAN TO CAPTURE ME!
WELL, LET'S HEAR YOUR PROPOSAL!
I KNOW THAT YOU WANT "THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE"!

REALLY? SAYS WHO?
NOT IMPORTANT... ALTHOUGH I ADMIT I DON'T KNOW YOUR MOTIVE!
HE HE! THAT PRICELESS PAINTING HOUSES AN INESTIMABLE SECRET FORMULA!
YOU DON'T SAY! HOW COME WE NEVER NOTICED?
BECAUSE IT'S A COLOR CODE HIDDEN IN THE PAINTING DURING THE LAST RESTORATION!
NOW YOU TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING!
AT ONCE! I CAN HELP YOU MAKE THAT WORK OF ART DISAPPEAR!
IN EXCHANGE, HOWEVER, I WANT A POSITION OF COMMAND IN THE ORGANIZATION!
HEAR, HEAR... AND WHAT IF WE MADE YOU DISAPPEAR AND ACTED ON OUR OWN?
IN THAT CASE YOU'D HAVE TO DEAL WITH MY COLLEAGUE! SHE'S A TOUGH GIRL!

BUT I AM CAPABLE OF NEUTRALIZING HER!
BRAVO, YOU ARE A REASONABLE DUCK! I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN WE GO INTO ACTION!
HOW?
WE'LL FIND A WAY! AS WE DID...
"... WITH THE AUDIO GUIDE!"
TAKE THE BUS STOPPING AT BLÖDE-GAENSCHENSTRASSE AT 21:04...
THERE'S NO DENYING IT, DONALD HAS LEARNED THE TRICKS OF THE TRADE!
PERHAPS A BIT TOO WELL!
KRIM
FAR AWAY...
BAH! DON'T TELL ME YOU TRUST HIM, BOSS!
OF COURSE NOT! BUT WE'LL HAVE HIM WORK FOR US!


CONTACT OUR AGENTS IN GERMANY! THERE'S A *THEFT* TO *ORGANIZE!*
THE NEXT DAY...
YAWN... TO STILL BE LYING THERE IN BED!
AT THE ALTES MUSEUM THERE'S NOT EVEN A *SHADOW* OF A SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUAL!
MAYBE THEY'LL STRIKE DURING THE TRANSPORT! NOW LET'S HAVE BREAKFAST!
HOT CHOCOLATE AND *BERLINER PFANNKUCHEN!*
JUST COFFEE FOR ME, THANKS!
Berliner

IN DUCKBURG WE CALL IT KRAPFEN, BUT I'M ALSO FOND OF THE ORIGINAL TRANSLATION!
ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH THE CREAM... GLAB!
WHAT'S WRONG, IS IT FILLED WITH JAM?
NO, I REMEMBERED THAT I FORGOT THE WALLET IN MY ROOM!
HMPF! I GET IT, I'LL PAY!
PTUI! BURTON COULD HAVE WRITTEN HIS MESSAGE ON A NAPKIN!
YOU DONE? WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO DUTY!
I FOUND A FEW CENTS IN MY POCKET! CAN I HAVE A DRINK?
JUST HURRY IT UP...
BAR


"... THE PAINTING IS ABOUT TO LEAVE!"
SIGUR AIR TRANSIT
THE "TRIUMPH OF LOVE" WILL TRAVEL IN THAT ARMORED VAN?
ONLY TO THE AIRPORT!
A PRIVATE PLANE CHARTERED FOR THE OCCASION AWAITS THERE!
VERY EFFICIENT!
I'LL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK YOU FOR ONE SMALL FAVOR!
THANKS FOR THE RIDE, HERR SIKURMAYER!
THE DOORS WILL OF COURSE NOT BE OPENED UNTIL WE'VE DELIVERED THE "TRIUMPH"!
WE WERE WORRIED WE WOULDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME FOR THE OPENING OF THE SHOWING!

EVERYONE WILL WANT TO SEE THE SUCCESS OF THE RESTORATION!
YOU MAY BE CONFUSING IT WITH ANOTHER WORK...
THIS ONE HASN'T UNDERGONE RECENT INTERVENTIONS!
REALLY? STRANGE!
EHEM... WOULD ANYONE LIKE A DRINK?
NO THANKS!
I INSIST!
Z!
Z!
THE KRAPFEN WEREN'T THAT GREAT, BUT THE SOPORIFIC GAS AND THE ANTIGAS BAG OF THE ORGANIZATION ARE DEFINITELY EFFECTIVE!

COME ON! THEY'RE SLEEPING SOUNDLY!
GREAT!
NO WEAPONS?
TO DO WHAT? WE KNOW YOU'VE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING!
BUT I GUESS WE WERE VERY WRONG!
GASP!
THAT CAN TRICK WASN'T BAD!
BUT I FORESAW IT AND PUT FILTERS IN MY NOSTRILS!
THIS IS MY STOP! GOODBYE!
OH NO!

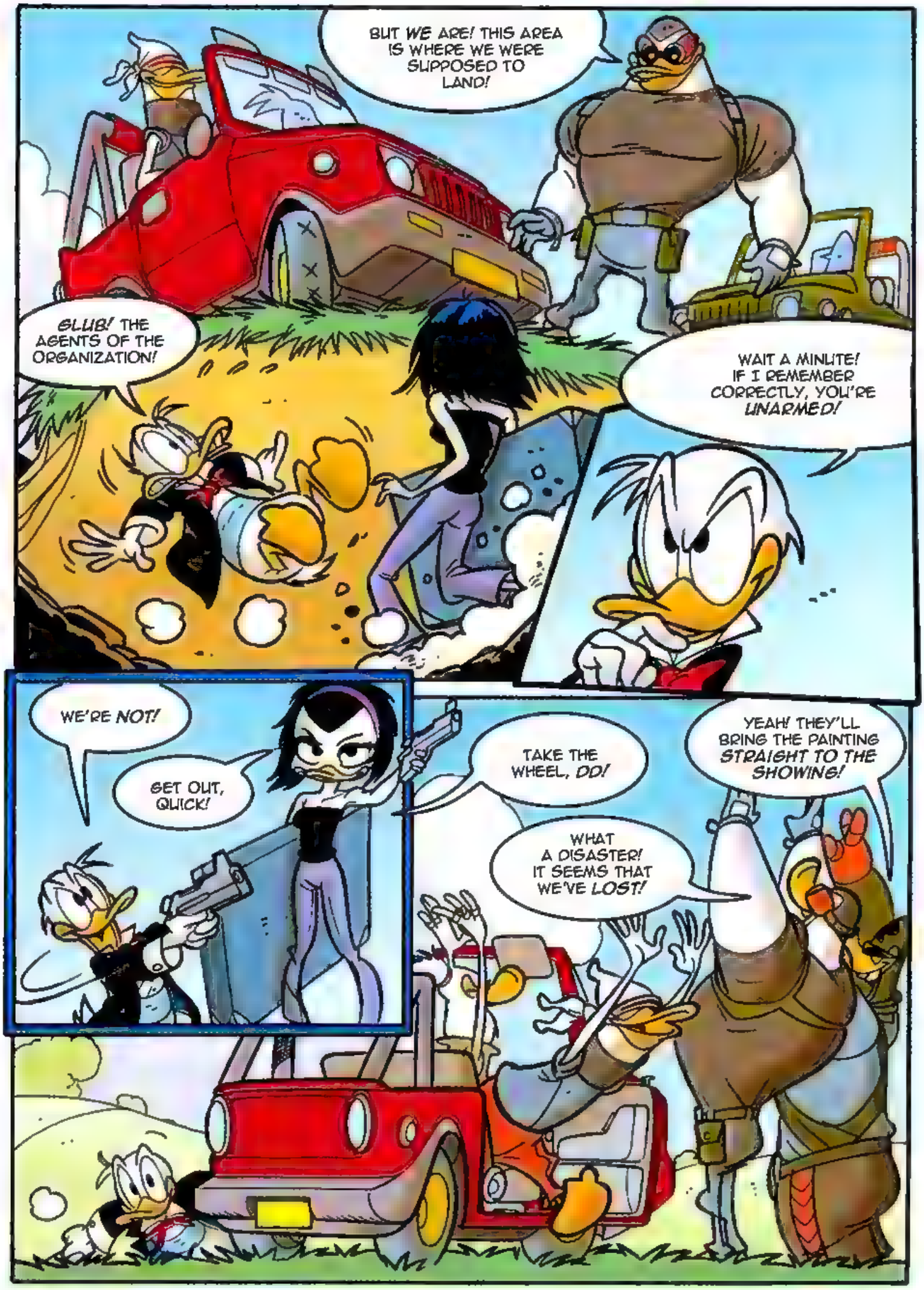
HAVE WE ALREADY PASSED THE BORDER, Z-33?
NOT YET! WE CAN GET TO THAT GIRL!
THUD
WAIT! I...
SGUAAACK!
SNORT! WHAT'S GOING ON?
W-WHERE'S THE COUNT AND HIS FIANCÉE?
I DON'T HAVE A PARACHUTE!

THEY'RE GONE! AND SO IS THE MASTERPIECE!
I HAVE TO NOTIFY THE PILOT TO GIVE ALARM AND...
CREW
EH?
FRUP
SIGH! WHY DON'T DUCKS KNOW HOW TO FLY?

PHEEEW! THANKS, COLLEAGUE!
HMPF! I ONLY ACTED ON INSTINCT! I DON'T USUALLY SAVE TRAITORS!
WELL, YOU HAVEN'T DONE IT THIS TIME EITHER!
REMEMBER WHEN THE BOSS SUMMONED ME ALONE?
"HE WANTED TO GIVE ME SOME CONFI-DENTIAL ORDERS..."
WHAT IS IT? I KNOW VERY WELL THAT PAINTING IS WORTH A MOUNTAIN OF DOLLARS!
THAT PLEASES ME, DOUBLEDUCK! BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT WORRIES ME!

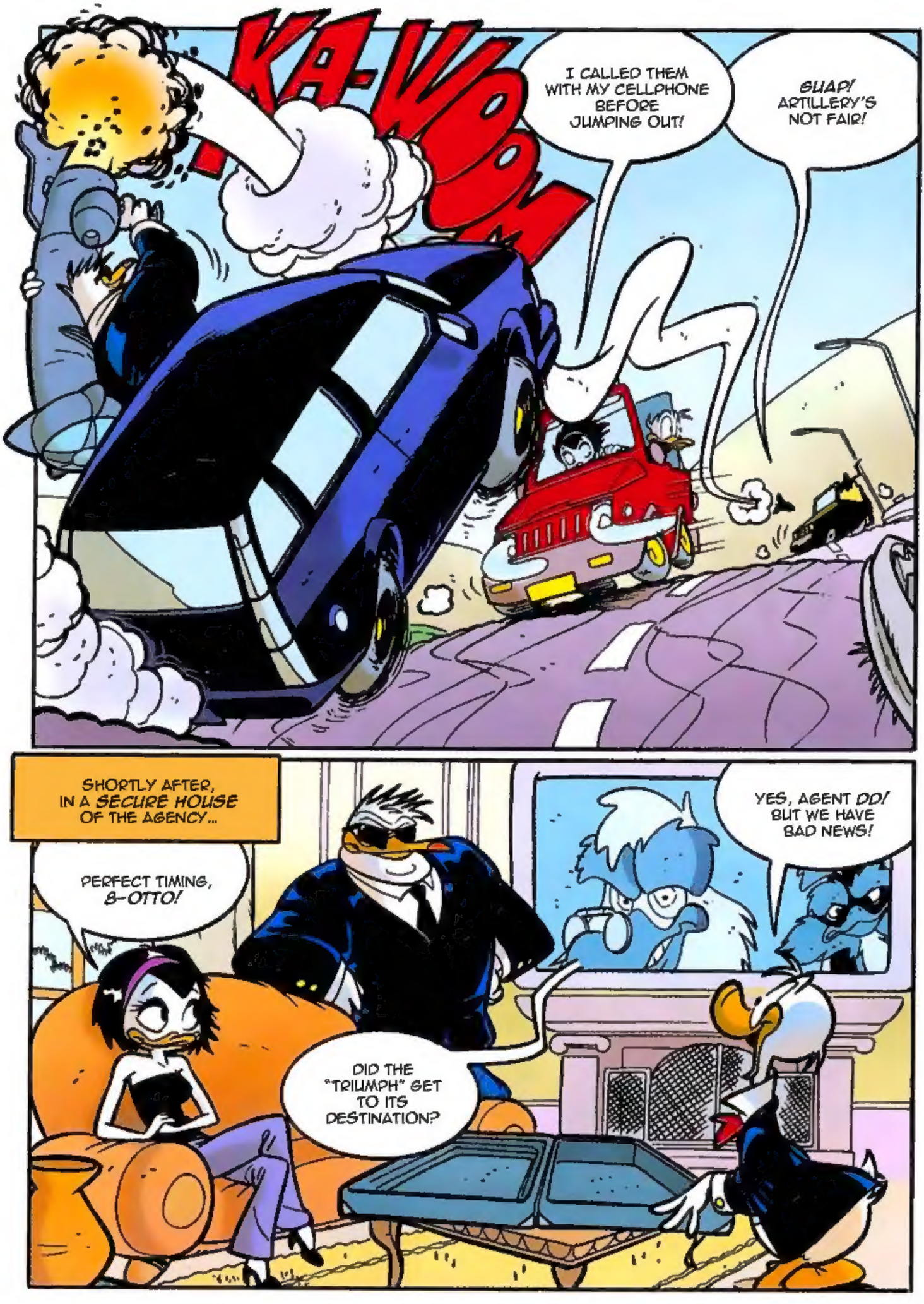
SINCERELY, I *DON'T BELIEVE* YOU'LL MANAGE TO DISCOVER WHY THE ORGANIZATION WANTS "THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE!"
SO I SET UP A *BACKUP PLAN!* TAKE A LOOK!
HEY! THAT'S ME!
WRONG! IT'S *ME*... WITH A LITTLE RETOUCHING!
I APPEAL TO THE *TOP* OF THE ORGANIZATION!
I KNOW OF YOUR PLANS AND HAVE AN OFFER YOU'D FIND *VERY INTERESTING!*
I'M HEADED TO BERLIN! CONTACT ME THERE!
I FORWARDED IT ON ALL THEIR *SECRET FREQUENCIES!* A NICE INITIATIVE, ISN'T IT?
EEEH?! THEY'LL THINK I WANNA *BETRAY THE AGENCY!*

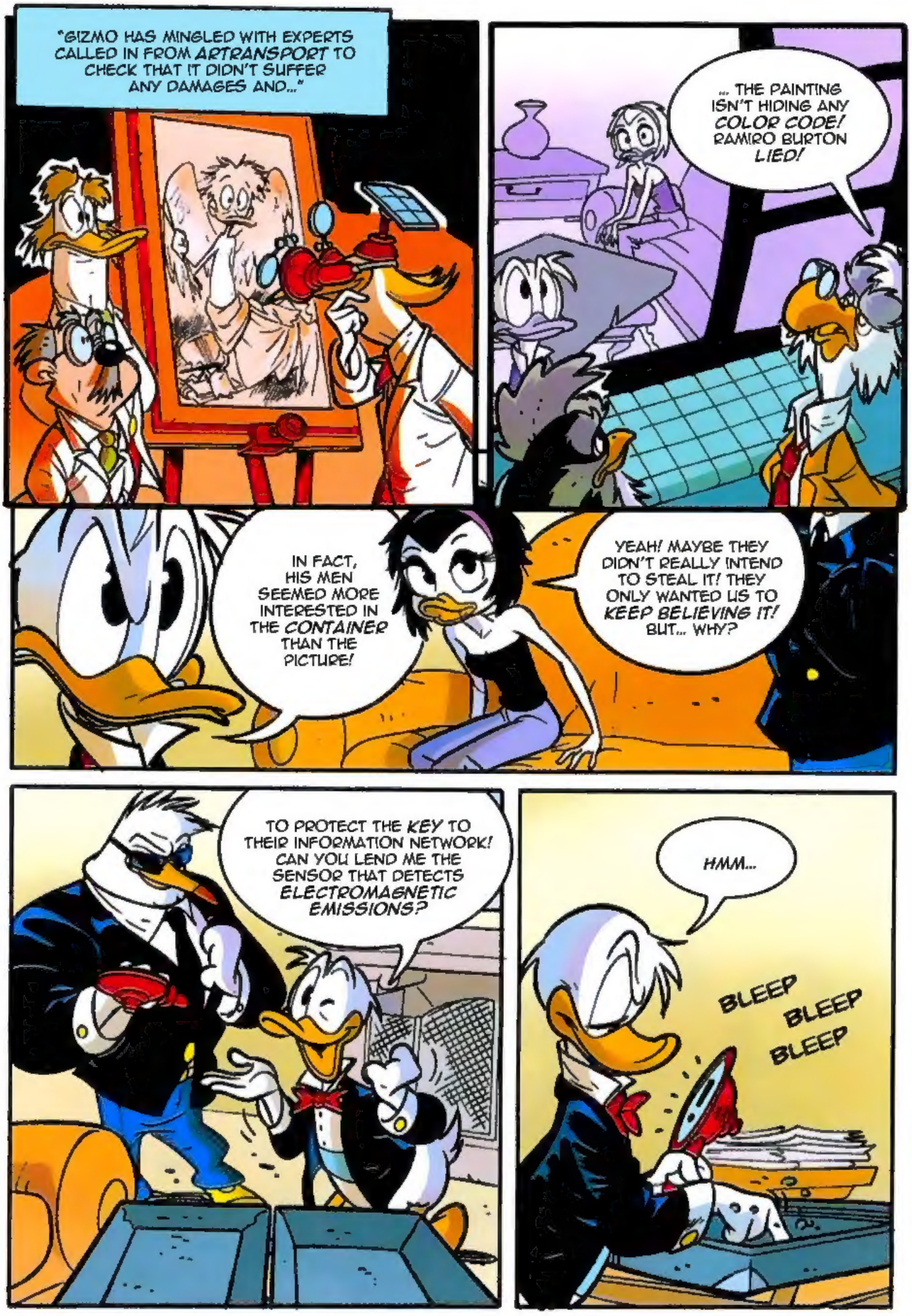
I CERTAINLY HOPE SO! THEN THEY'LL *REVEAL TO YOU* WHAT THEIR GOAL IS!
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED!
THE BOSS DECIDED IT WASN'T NECESSARY TO KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP! ARE YOU SURPRISED?
NO! BUT *BE PREPARED!*
WE HAVE *ARRIVED!*
BUMP
URGH!
EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?
YES AND EVEN THE CARGO IS *INTACT!*
VERY GOOO! NOW, IF WE'RE LUCKY...
YOU'RE NOT!


BUT WE ARE! THIS AREA IS WHERE WE WERE SUPPOSED TO LAND!
GLUB! THE AGENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION!
WAIT A MINUTE! IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, YOU'RE UNARMED!
WE'RE NOT!
GET OUT, QUICK!
TAKE THE WHEEL, DD!
YEAH! THEY'LL BRING THE PAINTING STRAIGHT TO THE SHOWING!
WHAT A DISASTER! IT SEEMS THAT WE'VE LOST!

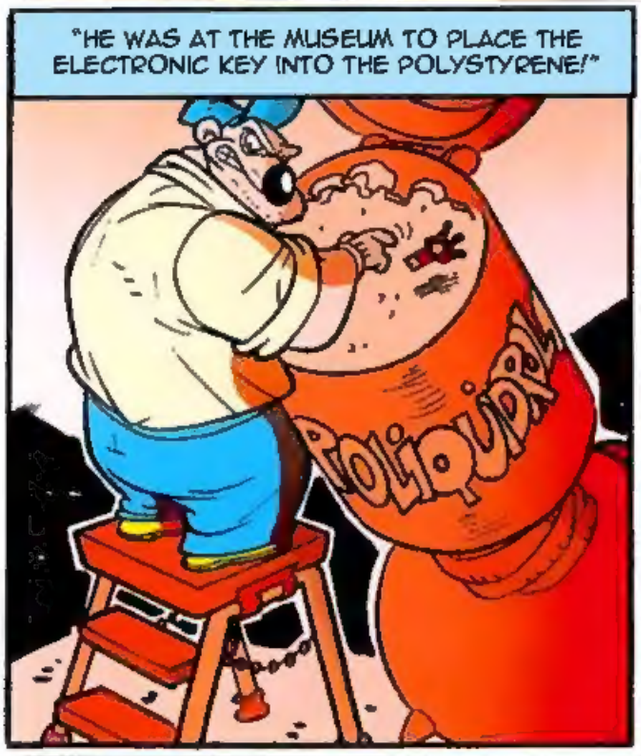
YOU THINK SO? WELL, IF YOU WANT THE "TRIUMPH", YOU DON'T HAVE TO FOLLOW US!
BECAUSE IT REMAINS ON THE PLANE, AS YOU CAN SEE!
ONE SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER, LIKE US NOT BEING UNARMED!
GET THEM!
STEP ON THE GAS, COLLEAGUE!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME!
RELAX! THE TIRES OF THE ORGANIZ-ATION ARE RESISTANT TO BULLETS!
VROOAM
RRAT-TAT-TAT
BLAM
BUT WE'RE NOT! ISN'T THERE A BULLETPROOF SHIELD AMONG GIZMO'S CLUTTER?

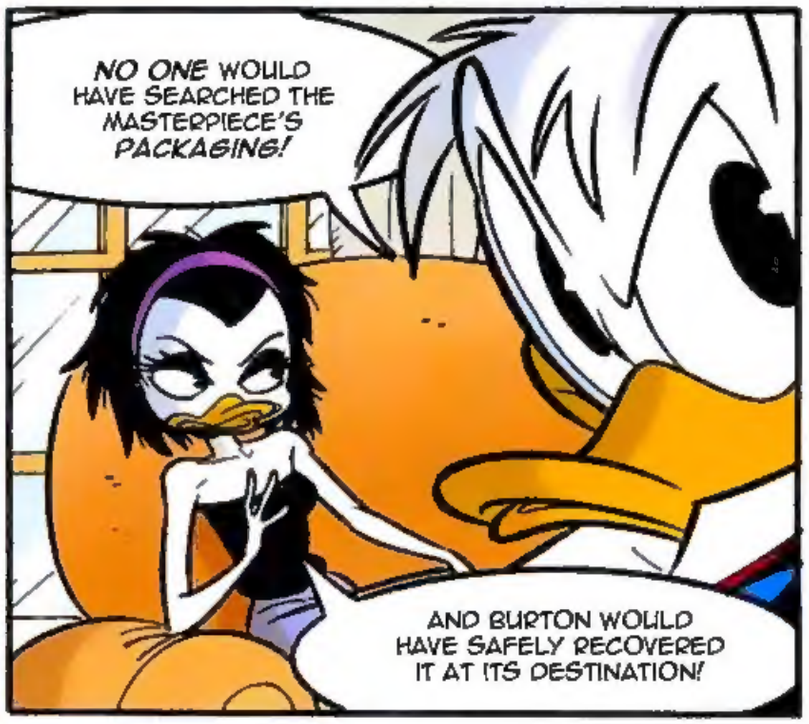
NO NEED! WE GOT ONE ALREADY!
I HOPE IT'S AS SOLID AS THEY SAY...
IT'S WORKING! WHICH WAY DO WE GO?
THAT WAY!
BLOOING PTTEUNG
A CAR'S HEADED AT FULL SPEED TOWARDS US!
ZOLL
TOWARDS THAT BORDER POST!
ULP! WE'VE BEEN SPOTTED!
I KNOW! 8-OTTO AND HIS MEN WERE STANDING GUARD THERE!

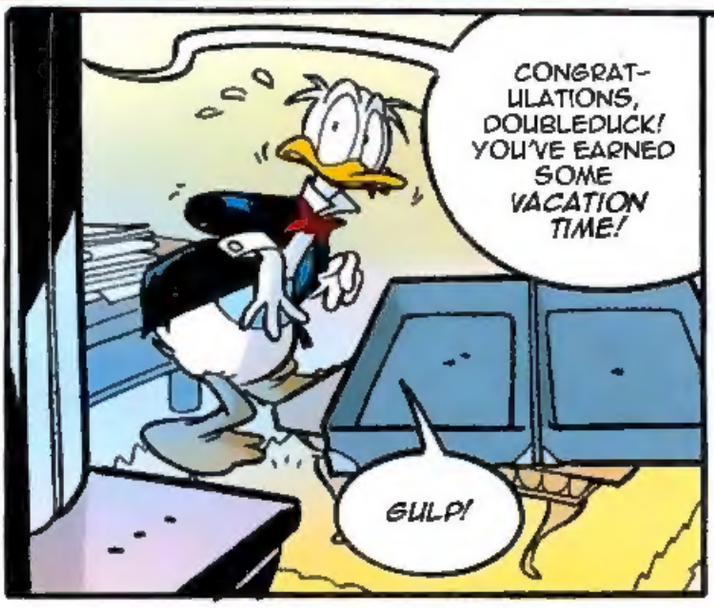

KA-WOW!
I CALLED THEM WITH MY CELLPHONE BEFORE JUMPING OUT!
GUAP! ARTILLERY'S NOT FAIR!
SHORTLY AFTER, IN A SECURE HOUSE OF THE AGENCY...
PERFECT TIMING, B-OTTO!
YES, AGENT DD! BUT WE HAVE BAD NEWS!
DID THE "TRIUMPH" GET TO ITS DESTINATION?


"GIZMO HAS MINGLED WITH EXPERTS CALLED IN FROM ARTRANSPORT TO CHECK THAT IT DIDN'T SUFFER ANY DAMAGES AND..."
... THE PAINTING ISN'T HIDING ANY COLOR CODE! RAMIRO BURTON LIED!
IN FACT, HIS MEN SEEMED MORE INTERESTED IN THE CONTAINER THAN THE PICTURE!
YEAH! MAYBE THEY DIDN'T REALLY INTEND TO STEAL IT! THEY ONLY WANTED US TO KEEP BELIEVING IT! BUT... WHY?
TO PROTECT THE KEY TO THEIR INFORMATION NETWORK! CAN YOU LEND ME THE SENSOR THAT DETECTS ELECTROMAGNETIC EMISSIONS?
HMM...
BLEEP
BLEEP
BLEEP

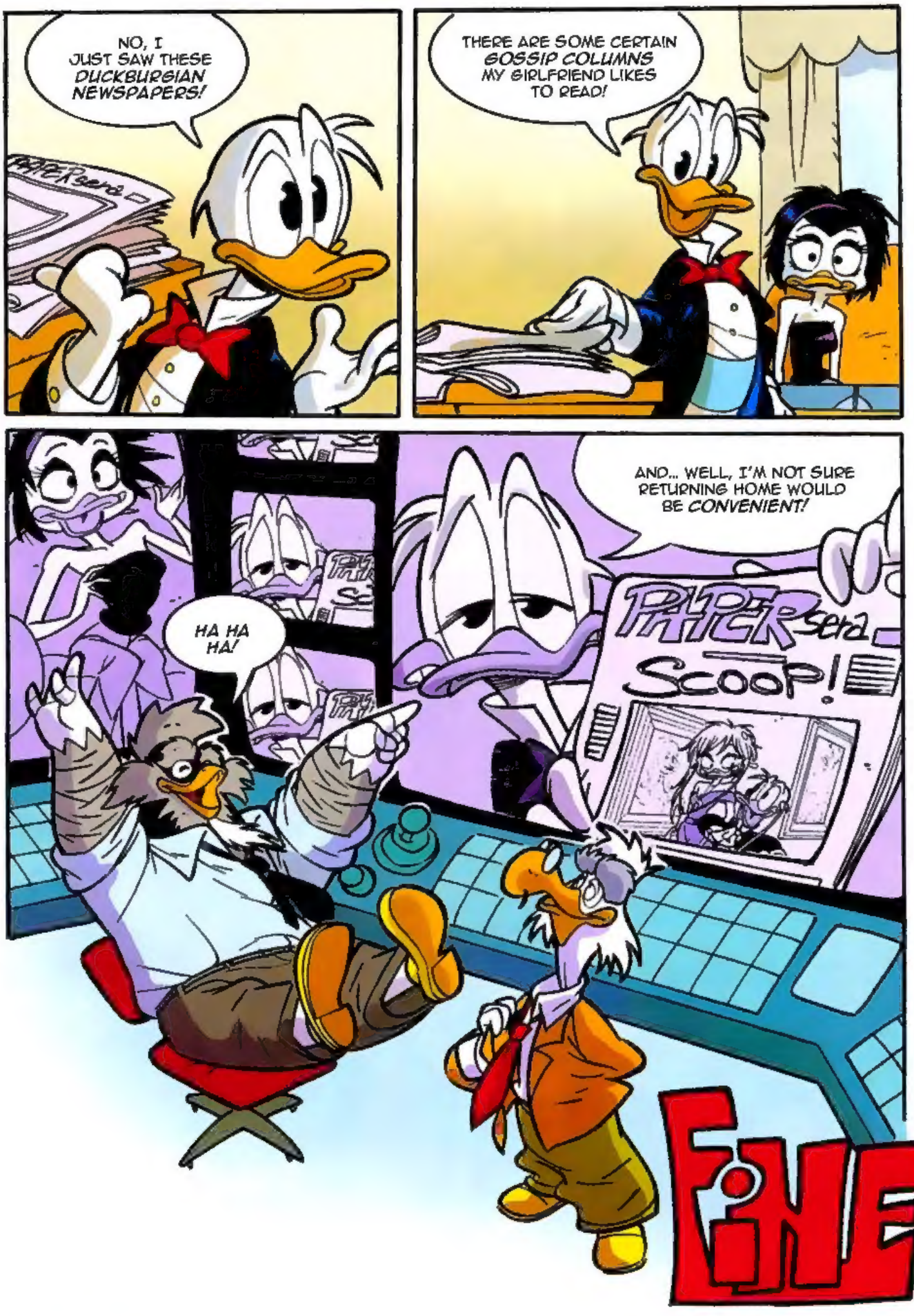
BUT... IT'S THE KOMMAND KEY!
WHAT THE ORGANIZATION WANTED WAS TO HAVE IT CROSS THE BORDER!
THEIR AGENT PICKED UP BY THE POLICE WASN'T PREPARING THE THEFT!


"HE WAS AT THE MUSEUM TO PLACE THE ELECTRONIC KEY INTO THE POLYSTYRENE!"
POLIQUDRI


NO ONE WOULD HAVE SEARCHED THE MASTERPIECE'S PACKAGING!
AND BURTON WOULD HAVE SAFELY RECOVERED IT AT ITS DESTINATION!


CONGRAT-ULATIONS, DOUBLEDUCK! YOU'VE EARNED SOME VACATION TIME!
GULP!

I'D PREFER LEAVING RIGHT AWAY FOR A NEW MISSION, MR. HEAD H!
TSK! WHAT IS IT? DID YOU HAVE AN ATTACK OF SENSE OF DUTY?


NO, I JUST SAW THESE DUCKBURGIAN NEWSPAPERS!
THERE ARE SOME CERTAIN GOSSIP COLUMNS MY GIRLFRIEND LIKES TO READ!
AND... WELL, I'M NOT SURE RETURNING HOME WOULD BE CONVENIENT!
PAPER sera
SCOOP!
HA HA HA!
FINE